

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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43

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL PALERMO

TO AMEMBASSY ROME

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1666

UNCLAS PALERMO 0001

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, IT

SUBJECT: PALERMO CARDINAL PAPPALARDO BREAKS POLITICAL SILENCE
ON JANUARY 1, 1976.

REF: PALERMO 0863

1. PALERMO CARDINAL SALVATORE PAPPALARDO BROKE HIS SILENCE ON SICILIAN POLITICS IN THE COURSE OF TRADITIONAL SERMON AT THE NEW YEAR MASS CELEBRATED IN PALERMO'S CITY HALL IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HIGHEST AUTHORITIES IN SICILY.

2. IN HIS ADDRESS, THE CARDINAL CALLED ATTENTION TO THE ONGOING CRISES AT THE COMMUNE AND PROVINCE OF PALERMO. HE UNDERLINED THE PUBLIC'S "PREOCCUPATION AND INDIGNATION FOR A CRISIS THAT HAS PRACTICALLY PARALYZED SEVERAL ACTIVITIES ESSENTIAL TO THE PROGRESS OF THE CITY AND THE WELL BEING OF THE CITIZENS". HE IDENTIFIED THE ROOT OF SICILIAN POLITICAL EVILS IN THE EXASPERATING TENDENCY OF SICILIAN POLITICIANS TO ASSIGN PRIORITY TO PERSONAL INTEREST AND "CLIENTELISMO".

3. WHILE CARDINAL PAPPALARDO'S SERMON WAS CERTAINLY NOT OUT-OF-LINE WITH THE NEW CHURCH POLICY IN ITALY, IT WILL BE ESPECIALLY NOTICED IN SICILIAN POLITICAL CIRCLES BECAUSE IT WAS THE CARDINAL'S FIRST "POLITICAL SERMON" SINCE HE BECAME CARDINAL IN 1973. CHIAVARINI

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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